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PRESS RELEASE

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USAID DIRECTOR CELEBRATES THE CLOSING OF AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RECUPERATION PROJECT WORTH RD\$7 MILLION

SANTIAGO – Ms. Elena Brineman, Director of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), celebrated the completion of the Agriculture and Forest Recuperation Project in areas of Jarabacoa affected by Hurricane Georges, with an estimated cost of RD\$7,081,051. Superior Institute of Agriculture (ISA) hosted the closing ceremony in the province of Santiago.

USAID funded and provided technical assistance to this project, and joined forces with ISA, the Plan Cordillera and the Junta Yaque, along with the active participation of 25 communities affected by the hurricane.

As a result, 178 hectares were rehabilitated with the soil conservation technique; 880 farmers received technical assistance and training on agroforestry; 6 green houses were reinstalled; and 137 coffee hectares were rehabilitated. The actual coffee production is organic on renewed soil conditions and preserving the environment.

USAID Director congratulated everyone who made this project a success story. She also thanked coffee farmers for producing higher quality coffee apt to compete in the global market.